

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously presented) A display device, comprising:  
a reflective image-generating arrangement configured to reproduce images, the images being visible to a viewer when the device is operated in either of two modes, including a first mode wherein the device produces a real image of the image-generating arrangement, the real image being suitable for direct viewing by the viewer, and a second mode wherein the device produces a virtual image of the image-generating arrangement, wherein the light that forms the virtual image proceeds from the image-generating arrangement to the viewer without being scattered by a diffusive screen.
2. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 1, wherein the image-generating arrangement is a microdisplay.
3. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 2, wherein the microdisplay is a liquid crystal microdisplay.
4. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 3, wherein the liquid crystal microdisplay is a ferroelectric liquid crystal microdisplay.
5. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 3, wherein the liquid crystal microdisplay is a nematic liquid crystal microdisplay.
6. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 2, wherein the microdisplay is a digital micromirror device.
7. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 2, wherein the microdisplay is a TFT device.
8. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 2, wherein the microdisplay is an OLED device.

9. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 1, further comprising one or more light source arrangements external to the image-generating arrangement that emit light and cooperate with the image-generating arrangement to produce the images during either or both of the modes.

10. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 9, wherein at least one of the one or more light source arrangements includes each of a red, a green, and a blue LED.

11. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 9, wherein the device includes one and only one light source arrangement.

12. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 9, wherein the device includes at least two light source arrangements.

13. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 9, further comprising a light source drive arrangement that establishes the intensity of the light from the one or more light source arrangements.

14. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 13, wherein the intensity of the light established by the light source drive arrangement relates to the image-review mode in which the display device is being operated.

15. (Original) A display device as defined in claim 1, further comprising a mode-selection arrangement that establishes the modes in which the display device is being operated.

16. (Original) A display device as defined in claim 15, wherein the mode-selection arrangement includes a switch having at least two positions that allows an operator of the device to select the desired image-review mode.

17. (Original) A display device as defined in claim 15, further comprising an eyepiece in which an operator of the device can look to view the virtual image of the image-

generating arrangement when the device is operated in the second mode.

18. (Original) A display device as defined in claim 17, wherein the mode-selection arrangement includes a proximity sensor that senses when the operator of the device is looking into the viewfinder.

19. (Original) A display device as defined in claim 15, further comprising an image screen upon which the real image of the image-generating arrangement appears when the device is operated in the first mode.

20. (Original) A display device as defined in claim 19, wherein the image screen is moveable between at least two positions, an active position for use when the first mode is in operation, and an inactive position for use when the first mode is not in operation.

21. (Original) A display device as defined in claim 20, wherein the mode selection arrangement senses the position of the image screen and accordingly establishes the mode in which the device is operated.

22. (Original) A display device as defined in claim 19, further comprising a sensing arrangement that determines the position of a pointing device in relation to the image screen.

23. (Original) A display device as defined in claim 19, wherein the image screen is polarized to reject at least a portion of the ambient light present in the device's operating environment.

24. (Original) A display device as defined in claim 19, wherein the image screen has non-unity gain.

25. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 1, wherein the virtual image follows a first optical path to a virtual image location and the real image follows a second optical path to a real image location.

26. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 25, wherein the first optical path and the second optical path are nowhere coincident.

27. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 25, wherein the first and the second optical paths are substantially coincident.

28. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 25, wherein the first and second optical paths are only partially coincident.

29. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 25, wherein at least a portion of the second optical path is external to the display device.

30. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 1, wherein the real image is formed external to the display device.

31. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 1, wherein the display device is a digital still camera.

32. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 1, wherein the display device is a video camera.

33. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 1, wherein the display device is a portable telecommunication device configured to receive images electronically from an external source.

34. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 1, wherein the display device is a personal digital assistant configured to receive images electronically from an external source.

35-39 (Canceled)

40. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 1, further including an eyepiece and an image screen separate from the eyepiece, wherein the virtual image is visible when the viewer looks into the eyepiece and the real image is visible when the viewer looks at

the image screen.

41. (Withdrawn) A display device, comprising:

an image-generating arrangement configured to reproduce images, the images being visible to a viewer when the device is operated in either or both of two modes, including a first mode wherein the device produces a real image of the image-generating arrangement, and a mode wherein the device produces a virtual image of the image-generating arrangement,

wherein the real image appears at a first location on the display device and the virtual image appears at a second location on the display device that is different from the first location.

42. (Withdrawn) A display device as defined in claim 41, further including an eyepiece and an image screen separate from the eyepiece, wherein the virtual image is visible when the viewer looks into the eyepiece and the real image is visible when the viewer looks at the image screen.

43. (Currently amended) A display device, comprising:

a reflective image-generating arrangement configured to reproduce images, the images being visible to a viewer when the device is operated in either of two modes, including a first mode wherein the device produces a real image of the image-generating arrangement, the real image being suitable for direct viewing by the viewer, and a second mode wherein the device produces a virtual image of the same image-generating arrangement, that is not a reflection of a real image of the image-generating arrangement projected onto a projection screen.

44. (Previously presented) A display device as defined in claim 43, further comprising a mode-selection arrangement that establishes the modes in which the display device is being operated.

45. (Previously presented) A display device as defined in claim 44, wherein the

mode-selection arrangement includes a switch having at least two positions that allows an operator of the device to select the desired image-review mode.

46. (Previously presented) A display device as defined in claim 44, further comprising an eyepiece in which an operator of the device can look to view the virtual image of the image-generating arrangement when the device is operated in the second mode.

47. (Previously presented) A display device as defined in claim 46, wherein the mode-selection arrangement includes a proximity sensor that senses when the operator of the device is looking into the viewfinder.

48. (Previously presented) A display device as defined in claim 44, further comprising an image screen upon which the real image of the image-generating arrangement appears when the device is operated in the first mode.

49. (Previously presented) A display device as defined in claim 48, wherein the image screen is moveable between at least two positions, an active position for use when the first mode is in operation, and an inactive position for use when the first mode is not in operation.

50. (Previously presented) A display device as defined in claim 49, wherein the mode selection arrangement senses the position of the image screen and accordingly establishes the mode in which the device is operated.

51. (Previously presented) A display device as defined in claim 48, further comprising a sensing arrangement that determines the position of a pointing device in relation to the image screen.